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PROBABLE COMMUNIST RESPONSE TO CURRENT UN TRUCE PROPOSALS

The Communists are expected to welcome two of the UN Command's current proposals which meet previous Communist demands, for the transfer of Korean as well as Chinese prisoners to the five-nation custodial commission and for operation of that commission by majority vote. They will probably press for at least 90 days, however, to make "explanations" to the prisoners.

On the critical point of disposition of the prisoners who remain unwilling to return, the Communists will almost certainly reject the UN's proposal to release them or transfer them to the UN if the political conference cannot agree on their fate in 30 days. Moscow and Peiping both rejected the Indian plan of last November immediately after this amendment was added to it.

The initial Communist response will probably be to reaffirm the demand for indefinite consideration of the prisoners' fate by the political conference, where the Communists could indefinitely block their release. Under UN pressure, the Communists might propose as an alternative disposition of the prisoners by majority vote of the custodial commission.

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